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November 1988

Railway Age

...for the new age of railways and rail transit

Freight Equipment Buyer's Guide

New strategies in car leasing

Brendan McNally
Congressional Info Service Inc
4520 East-West Highway
Bethesda MD 20814-3389
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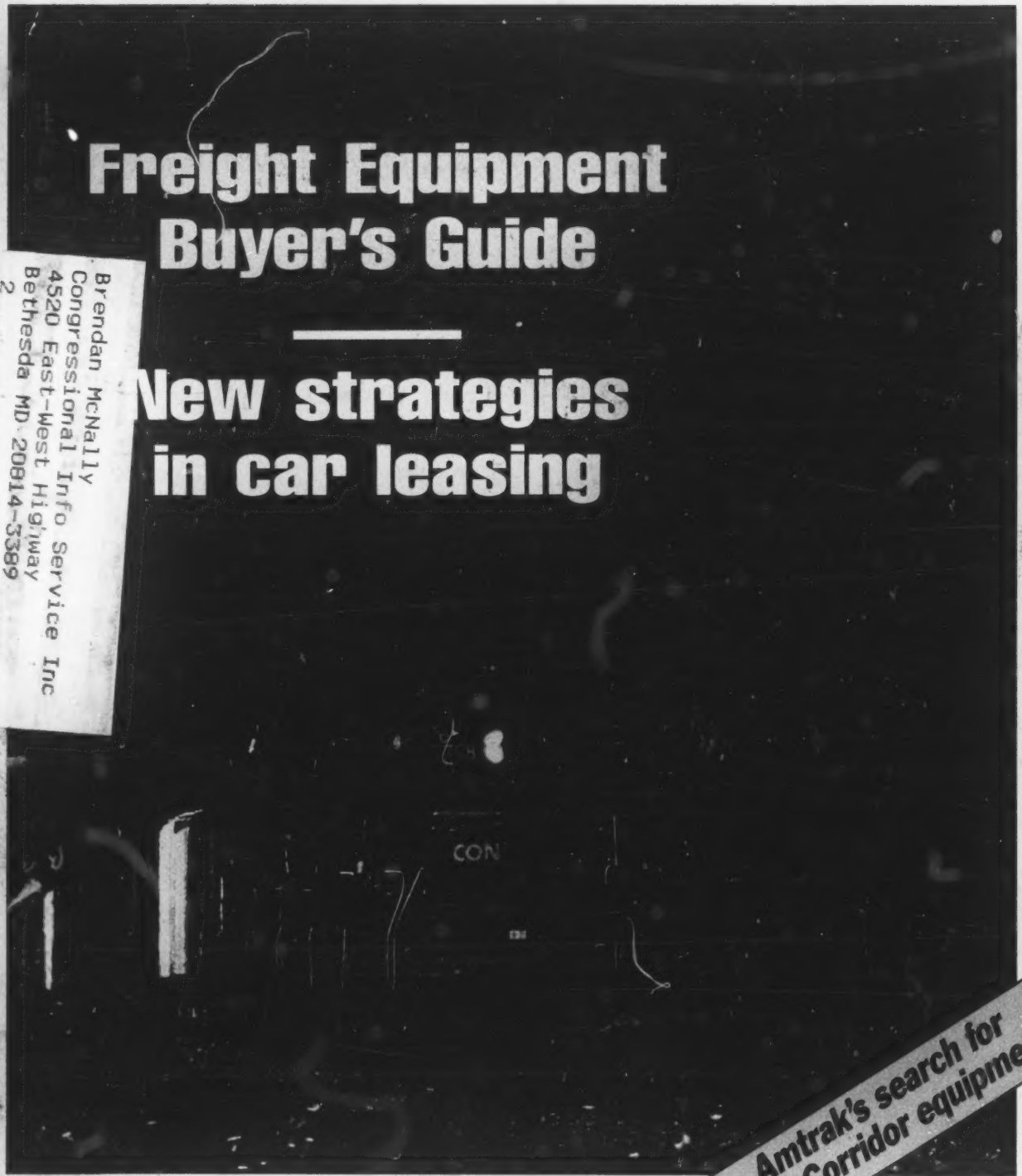

Amtrak's search for new Corridor equipment

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Market Outlook

Equipment

American President intermodal: Ordered three 40-long-ton capacity, rubber tired Transtainer stacking gantry cranes from PACECO for use in API's South Kearny, N.J., intermodal yard.

Amtrak: Purchased eight 3,000-hp, four-axle 6P4OTC locomotives from GO Transit, Toronto, for $2.3 million. They will be modified at Beach Grove, Ind., for service on short distance routes in the Midwest, freeing F4OPH locomotives for assignment to long-distance trains where there is a shortage of power.

GO Transit: Ordered an additional six FPH59 diesel-electric locomotives from General Motors of Canada's Diesel Division at a cost of $13.7 million (Canadian). An earlier order for 16 of the locomotives, valued at $36.7 million, has been delivered.

SP-D&RGW: Immediate equipment plans for these two railroads, now operating as a combined system under owner Rio Grande Industries, call for acquisition of 50 new locomotives valued at $60 million for delivery in 1989, an order divided between General Electric and the Electro-Motive Division of General Motors; 80 new double-stack container cars; and 150 new 73-foot center beam flatcars.

Trailer Train: Directors authorized acquisition of $52.2 million worth of cars during the first quarter of 1989—750 wells of 125-ton double-stack equipment, $29 million; 350 units of spine platform cars, $7.2 million; and 500 units of TOFC platforms, $16 million. The board also authorized purchase of 350 second-hand flatcars for the autorack fleet at a cost of $7.7 million. Among orders already placed for next year: 50 five-unit articulated well cars (250 wells) from Thrall Car; 40 five-unit cars (200 wells) from Gunderson; 40 five-unit spine cars (200 platforms) from Trinity Industries; and 10 five-unit spine cars (50 platforms) from Bethlehem Steel.

Facilities

Conrail/Agway: Are investing $8.5 million in a fertilizer unloading facility at Conrail's Pier 122 in Philadelphia. Conrail will spend $4.1 million to modify the pier for additional vessel-unloading operations. Agway, a farm supply and marketing cooperative, will build a $4.4 million storage and distribution terminal.

Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern: Will accelerate the upgrading of 338 miles of track in South Dakota with the help of a $7.8-million, low-interest loan from the Federal Railroad Administration. The program includes insertion of 165,000 new crossties, application of 199,000 tons of ballast, and strengthening or rehabilitation of 75 bridges. The regional carrier has already spent $1.9 million for track improvements in South Dakota since it began operations two years ago. DM&E has a five-year, $20-million track program which includes funding by the FRA, the states of Minnesota and South Dakota, shippers, and the railroad.

PATH: Awarded a $13.5 million contract to Perini Construction Co. of Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., to build subsurface foundations for an emergency evacuation and ventilation facility at Morton and West streets in lower Manhattan, a project that will cost a total of $45 million.

Revenue freight carloadings

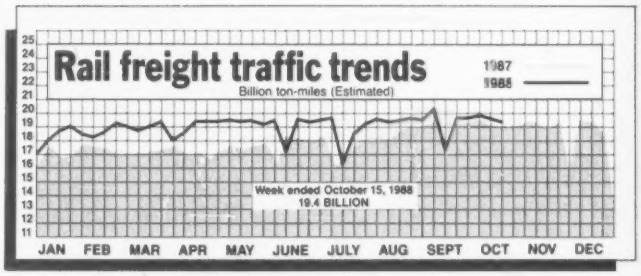
Commodity	Oct. 15 week	Oct. 8 week	Oct. 1 week	Sept. 24 week
Grain	31,345	31,739	29,833	30,502
Other farm products	4,029	3,982	3,488	3,252
Metallic ores	22,410	20,257	22,374	20,827
Coal	126,781	128,711	130,874	129,435
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	19,592	19,471	19,911	20,145
Nonmetallic minerals	11,050	11,233	10,948	11,120
Grain mill products	10,577	10,803	11,019	11,103
Food and kindred products	11,744	11,405	11,596	11,192
Primary forest products	10,133	9,441	9,993	9,935
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,218	6,638	7,940	7,726
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,815	11,657	12,254	11,975
Chemicals and allied products	29,356	28,836	28,593	26,138
Petroleum products	4,916	5,259	5,036	4,977
Stone, clay and glass products	11,474	11,718	12,119	11,610
Coke	5,421	6,109	5,899	5,650
Metals and products	10,092	9,281	11,132	11,160
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,603	21,282	22,918	21,966
Waste and scrap materials	10,068	9,532	10,032	9,690
Forwarder and shipper assn. traffic	2,385	2,575	2,645	2,420
All other carloads	88,246	90,777	93,062	90,422
Total Cars Loaded	**450,255**	**450,706**	**461,666**	**453,245**
% change from previous year	1.9	1.0	1.1	0.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (billions)	19.7	19.7	20.2	19.8
% change from previous year	2.0	0.3	1.3	1.1

Total:	1988	1987	% change
42 weeks	787.3	738.3	6.6

Piggyback loadings

	Oct. 8 week	Oct. 1 week	Sept. 24 week	Sept. 17 week
Trailers/containers	123,542	127,276	121,770	116,469

Cumulative total, 40 weeks		% change from 1987
Trailers/containers	4,417,387	5.7



Source: Association of American Railroads